

Steelworkers Postpone Strike Date for Two Weeks

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COUNCIL TO GET BUS PROPOSALS

A Penny for your Thoughts

"What does the Fourth of July mean to you?" That was the question the HERALD's inquiring photographer asked several vacationing school children in Torrance this week. Their remarks and pictures appear below.

Elaine Patrick, 1628 W. 221 St., age 12, 8th grader at Fleming Jr. High: "Vacation! That's what Fourth of July means — vacation and fireworks."

Angel Fox, 22039 Denker, age 12, Eighth grader at Fleming Jr. High: "It means less work around the house, no baby-sitting and a chance to go swimming at the beach."

Tommy Campbell, 1122 Fonthill, age 10, fifth grader at Madrona Elementary school: "Fun. Fourth of July is fun and it means fireworks."

Billy Steele, 1121 Fonthill, age 9, fourth grader at Nativity: "It means fun — shooting off fireworks. Sometimes we watch them at Redondo Pier and sometimes we shoot them off at home."

Jimmy Steele, 1121 Fonthill, age 6, second grader at Nativity: "It means fireworks and fun. We have them in our backyard."



SEEKS NEW CROWN . . . Betty Baker, pictured when she won the title "Miss Torrance," will compete with other entries in the "Miss Southern California" beauty contest this morning at Oceanside.

Procedure at Columbia Set

A two week extension of steel contracts eased the threat of a strike of Steelworkers here and across the nation yesterday afternoon. Steelworkers' President David J. McDonald announced extension of the contracts until July 14. The agreements were scheduled to end at midnight Tuesday.

McDonald's announcement followed by an hour a plea from President Eisenhower to end the strike threat. McDonald said two weeks would be "ample to conclude new collective bargaining agreements in good-faith negotiations."

Plans for an orderly shutdown of the local plant of the Columbia-Geneva Division, U.S. Steel in the event of a strike by Steelworkers have been worked out between representatives of Steelworkers Local 1414 and plant management, it was reported yesterday.

Tuesday noon deadline has been set at the plant, and if no word of settlement has been received by that time the open hearth furnaces will be charged for the last time, a company spokesman said. The "heat" in the furnaces will be completed, and furnaces permitted to cool gradually prior to the midnight Tuesday strike deadline.

OPEN HEARTH furnaces do not need to be banked, officials explained, but a reasonable cooling period is required to prevent damage to the facilities.

At a special meeting of management and union representatives here Friday, it was agreed that two trouble shooters would be permitted in the plant on each of the three daily shifts. An electrical and mechanical maintenance man will be assigned to each shift to prevent damage to the facilities because of the shutdown, it was agreed.

Council Studies Road Job

Indications that the city may have been charged about \$14,000 too much for a road improvement project is under study by members of the city council.

The report, prepared by Wade Peebles, director of public works, declares that the contractor billed the city for work he did not do according to specifications.

Roadwork in question is the improvement of Lomita Blvd. between Crenshaw and Hawthorne. It is one of the roadways mentioned by councilmen two months ago in an investigation which led to a shake-up of the city's engineering department.

Seven Water Applications Nixed by PUC

The Public Utilities Commission has turned down seven applications for water service in Lomita, it was revealed this week.

The applications were turned down by the commission in line with its order last month that no new service could be provided by Narbonne Ranch Water Co. No. 2 until the firm's system is improved. The denied applications included both residential and commercial buildings.



BLOWOUT VICTIM . . . James Beavers, thrown from his truck when a rear tire blew out on Western Ave. near 242nd St. Friday afternoon, talks to tow truck operator Bob Schimmick while waiting for an ambulance. Beavers, and a passenger, Tom Prude, of San Pedro, were in the truck at the time of the mishap. Prude received a slight head wound. (Herald photo)

Torrance Plant Changes Hands Here on Tuesday

Transfer of the American Rock Wool plant to the United States Gypsum Co. will be done with a minimum of disruption in production or operation, spokesmen for the firms said yesterday.

Stating that employees had been notified that their employment with American Rock Wool would terminate at midnight on June 30, spokesmen for United States Gypsum said all had been asked immediately.

"Would you like to work for United States Gypsum Co. here?"

PERSONAL interviews with employees of the local plant have been conducted during the past weeks by John Ebbinghouse, plant manager, and Charles W. Desgrey, vice president of manufacturing for the firm which will take over next Wednesday.

Plans for the future are bright at the local plant, its new owners report. With their sales increasing steadily, the local manufacturing plant will be used to increase their production throughout the west coast area. The new owners have been one of the top customers of American Rock Wool in recent years.

AND, THE new operators of the plant say, any difference in operations at the local facility will be minor. The United States Gypsum Co. has an excellent employee relations history in its 52 plants, its officials say.

Ebbinghouse, manager of the plant here for several

Final Budget Hearing Due

A recommendation that bus service to Los Angeles and Long Beach by Torrance Municipal Bus Lines be curtailed, but not eliminated, will be considered by councilmen at their meeting Tuesday.

A report on the operations of the city's bus lines, prepared by the council's transportation committee, recommends that the level of schedules now existing between Torrance and Los Angeles be maintained during peak morning and afternoon hours.

As recommended to the council, the mid-day services would be reduced to provide "token facilities" to be supplemented with other bus runs terminating at 120th St. and Vermont Ave. and at Gardena Blvd. and Vermont Ave.

THERE WOULD be no round trip service to Los Angeles on Sunday, if the council adopts the recommendations of its committee, and currently offered late night runs, both on week days and Sunday, would be discontinued.

The committee also recommends that the Los Angeles depot on Hill St. near Olympic be shut down "as an economy measure."

THE SCHEDULE and service changes would permit reduction in overtime, the council's committee reported. The changes would result in a reduction of the current annual

deficit by approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000.

Raising fares by 5 cents on the Los Angeles and Long Beach lines would further reduce the subsidies needed from the city's general fund, the committee stated.

The recommendations of the committee are being presented to the council on the heels of a wave of protests from persons throughout the city and on the Los Angeles line who say they depend on the bus transportation to get to work.

OTHER MATTERS scheduled to come before the council Tuesday when it meets at 5:30 includes the final hearing and adoption of the city budget for the 1959-60 fiscal year which begins July 1. Councilmen made little progress in getting the final document in shape at a special meeting Wednesday evening.

Continued efforts by city employees, sparked by representatives of the fire and police departments, to gain a wage comparable to those in private industry will probably be made (Continued on Page 16)

Mrs. McVey to See Air Force Academy

Selection of Mrs. Kenneth W. McVey, 17644 Cranbrook, as one of 16 California women to visit the new U. S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs next month has been announced by the Air Force Assn., sponsors of the visit.

Mrs. McVey is a member of the city recreation commission, outgoing president of the Torrance Council PTA, vice chairman of the city committee, and vice president of the Torrance chapter of the City of Hope.

In addition to these activities, she is a member of the board of directors of the Family Counseling Service, a Community Chest sponsored agency.

The women selected by the Air Force Assn. for the trip will be flown to Colorado Springs in an Air Force plane, and will tour all Academy facilities. A color film of the trip will be presented to the women following the tour which may be shown to civic groups in the area on their return.

Mrs. McVey was nominated for the trip by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.



NEW DIRECTORS . . . Added to the Chamber of Commerce board of directors in one of the closest races in the Chamber's history were these directors (standing from left): Harold Frenz, Atty. James Hall, James Becker and Jack Phillips. Glen Koger (seated) was appointed to the fifth post by the directors. (Herald photo)



FIVE OF A KIND . . . Arlene Whitman, 16; Ann Petlam, 17; Joyce Gordon, 17; Karen Husted, 17; and Monica Chatell, 18, met in El Prado Park Friday to talk over the pending contest. Winner will reign over Rancho Days rodeo. (Herald photo)